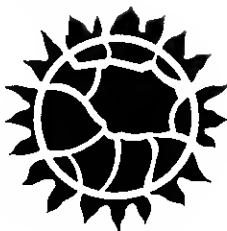


TIFFANY STAR #30
HISTORY OF THE IMPERIUM
WORKING GROUP
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Michael R. Mikesh
3214 75th Avenue, #3
Landover, MD 20785
USA (301) 772-2498

As most of you are probably aware, Clay Bush's newsletter, AAB PROCEEDINGS, is now the flagship periodical for HIWG as of about the turn of the year. TIFFANY STAR anymore is just a mass letter I occasionally send out to key people in HIWG, particularly those doing other HIWG periodicals.

Two things prompted this change. First off, my job situation had all but stopped my Traveller activities for many weeks (and so I have an enormous backlog of unanswered letters). Second is the IMPERIAL LINES newsletter for GDW. With what time I have, I must assure that gets out on schedule, so could not keep up with the HIWG newsletter.

TRAVELLER CONVERSION GUIDE

HIWGers on the GENie network (particularly Geo Gelinas, Rob Prior, Paul Drye, and Clay Bush), were quite active in coming up with a first cut of Twilight 2000 rules to run Traveller by. Most of it is derived from work Geo Gelinas had already done and published in TERRA TRAVELLER TIMES. Length is about 40 pages (laser), including forms.

The project does not have GDW sanction. This is really just a stop gap rules set for our use until TRAVELLER - THE NEW ERA comes out this fall. Its not even a complete set of rules. Referees will still have to exercise some inventiveness, but that's okay! As refs come up with innovations, pass them to Dave Nilsen at GDW. (And send a copy to Rob Prior, who oversees the HIWG effort in this area.)

Prices: \$3.50 in North America; \$5.50 overseas. However, I'll probably send free copies to overseas members that do newsletters so they can copy and circulate the Guide from there.

GENCON/ORIGINS '92

Gencon/Origins '92 is scheduled for Aug 20-23 at the convention center at Milwaukee (beer capital of America), in the state of Wisconsin (renowned for cheeses). I plan to be there.

I'm mentioning this especially for folks outside of the U.S.A. We have two major conventions every year in this country, GenCon and Origins. GenCon is TSR's, and always held in Wisconsin. Origins (started by Avalon Hill, and now sponsored by GAMA) floats around.

Every now and then, GenCon and Origins come together for a really big event. The last one (and I think the only other time this happened) was in 1988. So, a conjunction like this is special.

What I'm getting at is if any HIWGers outside of the States have ever considered coming here to attend a really big convention, NOW is the time.

And it gets better. On Aug 24, the day immediately after the con, GDW will hold a Traveller Writer's Conference at Bloomington, Illinois. Its wide open to everyone -- you don't even have to be established yet as a writer. (Just going there is proof enough of your seriousness.) Terry McInnes has worked hard to put this together, and I'd hope it'll be well attended.

At the close of GenCon, most of us will just drive south to the Ramada Inn at Bloomington. That evening, I will probably run a one session Traveller adventure under Twilight 2000 rules. And, naturally, there will be informal discussions. Then the GDW folks will meet with us for the day in one of the Ramada conference rooms.

If you're interested, let me know. I'll get more information to you and help you in making arrangements. While you're over here, though, remember two things. First, we drive on the right side of the road, not the wrong. Second, the sun crosses to the south, not the north, if you have to navigate by it.

IMPERIAL LINES

IMPERIAL LINES #1 is being distributed. I gave Loren Wiseman an address list of all HIWGers, and asked that everyone be put on the initial mailing list. That was a big list, so I'm not entirely certain he'll do it. So, if you don't see a copy pretty soon, I suggest you send GDW a specific request.

IMPERIAL LINES #2 is now in formatting. All the art and articles are now with John Meyers who's arranging it with the magic of his Mac. Once its visually the way he wants it, he will upload it to GDW (about May 11) for final touch-ups, printing, and distribution.

IL#2 was the Solomani & Aslan issue, which will feature some sharp pieces of art from Matti Laakso and Paul Sanders. Of the articles, we have:

- 1) "X-Link", editorial by Geo Gelinas
- 2) "Honor and Balance", short adventures by Gregory P. Lee
- 3) "False Dewclaws", by Mike Mikesch
- 4) "Hellion - Solomani Fighter", by Scott Olson & Mike Mikesch
- 5) "Solomani Terrorism", by Mike Mikesch
- 6) "Splat Gun", by Mike Mikesch
- 7) "Bootean Federation", by Steven Eric Schwartz

We might not be able to use all of these. Its depends on what will fit in 8 pages, which is John's department to decide.

The editor-in-chief of IMPERIAL LINES is Geo Gelinas. He sets the over-all direction for the newsletter. His editor's remarks appear in each issue's "X-Link".

For now, all submissions, art and articles, come to me. I do the primary selection and the editing. After that, it goes to John Meyers, as I already described. Its a very workable system. I interface with the writers and artists. John interfaces with GDW.

We're already working on IL#3 (the Vilani & Vargr issue), and we need submissions. At the moment, we don't have much at all, so I'm asking for material (1000 words and less). Deadline to me is July 1, but I want to see queries about what you're planning well before that. Please mark on the envelope that its in regards to IMPERIAL LINES.

Here are some examples of what we're looking for. Random nuggets (we need these above all else). Short discussion, eg. Law Enforcement in the Vargr Extents. Equipment, eg. A Selection of Vargr Arms (using Twilight 2000 formats). Bestiary -- what is that creature on page 19 of VILANI & VARGR? And how about Vilani liquors? Undoubtedly, the shugilii came up with some very fine ones. Perhaps list several, with prices, characteristics, and special comments. Other data in Small Cargoes format might be useful.